

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 9-40 are pending. Claims 1-8 have been canceled herein.

II. Response to the Restriction Requirement

Applicants elect the claims of Group II, claims 9-24, with traverse. In conformity with Office practice, the use claims have been amended to be method claims. No new matter has been added.

The Requirement also imposes a requirement that Applicants elect a species among the group consisting of obstructive pulmonary disease, interstitial lung disease, and asthma. Applicants elect as a species obstructive pulmonary disease. The claims reading upon the elected species are: 9, 10, and 14-21.

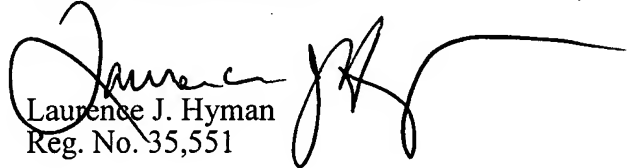
Applicants understand that the Examiner will examine the non-elected species in this proceeding upon finding the elected species patentable over the art.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,


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